

## Listening Guide- Episode 4- *Things Fall Apart*- Chinua Achebe

### “The Clash of Cultures End Tragically”

1. Achebe, like \_\_\_\_\_, understands that things are more than just \_\_\_\_\_ thing.
2. Missionaries come first, but after them comes \_\_\_\_\_ in that order.
3. Okonkwo’s \_\_\_\_\_ has converted and had been one of the missionaries to visit the clan.
4. In large part the only people converting to Christianity are what they were calling, Efulufu, or \_\_\_\_\_ people.
5. Here Achebe also explains that the Igbo society have a \_\_\_\_\_ system, and not everyone flourished under it.
6. “Nwoye was not worth \_\_\_\_\_ for.”
7. Okonkwo himself is a reaction to his own \_\_\_\_\_.
8. Not everything portrayed about the Igbo \_\_\_\_\_ is something Achebe endorses.
9. He clearly loved his homeland deeply, but he also described Nigeria with the word \_\_\_\_\_.
10. His loyalty to Nigeria and to the Igbo was never contingent on Nigeria’s \_\_\_\_\_, or really even their commitment to improve.
11. I understand him to be arguing that the military force was not the biggest threat during the colonization period, it was the \_\_\_\_\_ colonization that was given an opportunity to flourish because, in part, of internal weaknesses.
12. The best lack all conviction, while the worst are full of passionate \_\_\_\_\_.
13. In times of great transition, it’s easier for people without \_\_\_\_\_ to get to the top.
14. Mission work of any religion is going to be \_\_\_\_\_, by definition.
15. The Igbo obviously hold life to be \_\_\_\_\_, so do the missionaries, but they think differently about how to protect life.

16. The Igbo see the \_\_\_\_\_ as a threat to the lives of the many already living.
17. “The others we called, with the conceit appropriate to followers of the true religion, the \_\_\_\_\_ or even ‘the people of nothing.’”
18. In 1884, Otto von Bismarck called together something called the Berlin or the \_\_\_\_\_ Congress.
19. What happened at this congress did not start \_\_\_\_\_ in Africa, but it contributed to heightening it as well as to help override most of the existing forms of African self-government that had existed up to this point.
20. He called these \_\_\_\_\_ Kotma or Court-man.
21. “It is already too late,’ said Obierika sadly. ‘Our own men and our sons have joined the ranks of the \_\_\_\_\_.’”
22. Achebe does not set \_\_\_\_\_ as a standard for greatness.
23. “You can stay with us if you like our ways. You can \_\_\_\_\_ your own god. It is good that a man should worship the gods and spirits of his fathers.”
24. Dialogue has always been the instrument of \_\_\_\_\_ in the Igbo culture and it’s the way to peace.
25. Okonkwo would rather \_\_\_\_\_ than yield to the Kotma.
26. “That man was one of the greatest men in Umofia. You drove him to kill himself; and now he will be buried like dog.”
27. “To the colonialist mind it was always of the utmost importance to be able to say: ‘I know my \_\_\_\_\_.’”
28. Okonkwo’s story is an \_\_\_\_\_ story, but the district commissioner understands so little of it he can’t even figure out how to fill a paragraph.
29. The final way to understand the ending of this book is to look at the \_\_\_\_\_ Okonkwo left behind.
30. In Greek tragedy the \_\_\_\_\_ finds catharsis.
31. Modern tragedy provides no \_\_\_\_\_ by definition, there’s no certainty.
32. Do our systems promote \_\_\_\_\_ or corruption?